

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

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COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT NO.	
TOPIC	KVP Tank Repair Shop at Neubrandenburg		25X1
EVALUATION	see below	PLACE OBTAINED	632698
DATE OF CONTENT	5 October 1953 to 3 March 1954		25X1
DATE OBTAINED		DATE PREPARED	8 April 1954
REFERENCES	25X1		
PAGES	4	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)	1 - one envelope containing 39 photographs, with negatives (photographs to ORR, negatives to OGD/Library)
REMARKS			

SOURCE

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1. In late January 1954, construction work at the tank repair shop in Neubrandenburg was stopped because of frost and was resumed during the second half of February. The heating installation with a 25-meter chimney was completed in late December 1953. In January and February, the tank repair shop was operated by about 1,200 men including construction workers and craftsmen. The quota of materiel to be completely overhauled in February and the months before was 10 tanks or SP guns.¹ On 7 February, about 40 tanks and SP guns in want of repair were at the installation; about 20 of them were parked in the large hall at the lake and the remainder in front of the hall.² A course of instruction for KVP tank mechanics attended by about 120 men was held at the installation in February 1954. The KVP personnel wore blue collar patches and were quartered in two temporary buildings at the intersection of Fuenfeichner Weg and the road to Neubrandenburg.
2. In late October, source learned that the construction of a multiwing, large repair hall for the overhauling of tanks was planned for 1954. The assembly line system was, allegedly, to be used for the repair of tanks, with the tanks being disassembled into component units. These were overhauled in special shops to the right and left of the middle tract. Such special shops existed for radio and optical equipment, weapons etc. After about 100 meters, there will be a point where the engines will be removed and taken to a special motor shop. The tanks will leave the hall ready for loading. ³
3. In early January 1954, source photographed part of the catalog of the machinery delivered to the tank repair shop. The catalog, classified material, is in German and Russian, the machines were delivered under the reparation delivery program and made available for use by the KVP. Although the installations for all workshops had been delivered in early January 1954, only some of the machinery had been installed.
4. The following tanks and SP guns were at the repair shop between 5 October 1953 and 3 March 1954:
5 October 1953: 7 T-34/76.2 tanks and 8 SU-76s in hall No V, 2 T-34/76.2 tanks and 1 T-34/85 tank were parked in the open.

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Early November: 4 T-34/76.2 tanks, 4 T-34/85 tanks, 1 JS-2 tank and 5 SU-76s.

Early December: 6 T-34 tanks, 1 JS-2 tank, and 1 SU-100 in hall No V and 6 T-34/76.2 tanks parked in the open.

20 January 1954: 15 T-34 tanks, 1 JS-2 tank, 1 SU-76 and 1 SU-100 in hall No V, 8 T-34 tanks, 1 JS-2 tank, 5 SU-76s and 1 SU-100 parked in the open.

15 February: 1 T-34/76.2 tank, 10 T-34/85 tanks, 5 SU-76s, 2 SU-100s, and 1 JSU-122 in hall No V, 5 T-34/76.2 tanks, 5 SU-76s and 1 JSU-122 tank parked in the open, ready for shipment.

Early March: 12 T-34/85 tanks, 2 SU-100s and, 2 JSU-122s in hall No V and 1 T-34 tank and 1 JSU-122 parked in the open, ready for shipment.

5. Incoming materiel between 5 October 1953 and 3 March 1954 included:

26 October 1953: 2 T-34/76.2 tanks and 4 SU-76s
 27 October 1953: 2 T-34/76.2 tanks
 23 October 1953: 2 T-34/76.2 tanks and 2 SU-76s
 4 November 1953: 4 T-34/85 tanks, 1 SU-76 and 1 JS-2
 6 November 1953: 4 T-34/76.2 tanks and 3 SU-76s
 23 November 1953: 2 T-34/76.2 tanks
 1 December 1953: 6 T-34/85 tanks
 4 December 1953: 1 SU-76
 5 January 1954: 7 T-34/85 tanks and 2 SU-76s
 8 January 1954: 2 SU-76s
 27 February 1954: 5 T-34/85 tanks and 2 SU-100s.

Outgoing shipments:

29 October 1953: 3 T-34/76.2 tanks and 4 SU-76s
 6 November 1953: 4 T-34/76.2 tanks and 2 SU-76s
 24 November 1953: 1 T-34/76.2 tank and 4 SU-76s
 26 November 1953: 3 T-34/76.2 tanks and 1 SU-76
 25 February 1954: 5 T-34/85 tanks and 1 SU-100
 26 February 1954: 5 T-34/76.2 tanks and 9 SU-76s
 2 March 1954 : 1 T-34/85 tank.

The tanks arrived at, or were dispatched from, the repair shop only at night. Most of the vehicles were discarded materiel of the Red Army, some of which were in very poor condition and had not been used for some time. Spare parts, which were available in sufficient quantities, included engines and chains. There was a shortage in chrome leather collars, special keys and corner spare parts. About 8 trucks and 8 sedans [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] belonged to the workshop. Security measures inside the plant forbade employees to enter workshops other than those where they worked, without a written permit by the foreman or section chief. Records of an officer in key position at the plant indicated that units which received tanks after overhaul were stationed in Berlin, Leipzig II, Potsdam, Gotha, Brandenburg/Havel, Spremberg and Frenzlau.

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The administrative staff included Major Berndt (fnu) with Captain Weber (fnu) as deputy, and Captain Werner (fnu) as technical director. An informant from another section of the installation said that all armored vehicles were fitted with obsolescent optical and radio equipment. According to statements by Senior Lieutenant Laur (fnu), a target range of about 150 meters for the zeroing in tank armament was to be constructed in Nemerower Holz (woods), just south of the installation, in the spring of 1954.⁶ A member of the plant police said that a small, low brick building with radio sets or a radar set at Datseberg hill on the northwestern perimeter of the town belonged to the repair shop. The building had been erected in the summer of 1953 and was connected with the repair shop by telephone. In early January 1954, a letter head with the following addresses of the installation was identified: Postal address: VEB repair shop Neubrandenburg; telephone: 536, 537 and 538; POB: 334; teletype operator: 0230; telegram address: VEB repair shop Neubrandenburg; banking account: Deutsche Notenbank, account No 8150, shipping address: Neubrandenburg railroad siding No 48. In early February, the tank repair shop was operated by about 750 men.⁶

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6. On 13 February 1954, a cantonment of 8 single-story wooden buildings referred to as cantonment on the Gaetenbach (brook), which measured about 150 x 120 meters and was surrounded by a lattice fence about 130 meters high, was located about 750 meters south of Neubrandenburg, just south of the Gaetenbach and east of Neustrelitzer Chaussee. The cantonment housed the DHZ Kohle, Neubrandenburg, in building No 1; the VEB (K) Bau-Union, Schwerin, in buildings No 2 and 3; KVP in buildings No 4 and 5; the Peene Wasserwirtschafts-Verband in building No 6; and the administration in building No 7. It could not be determined what building No 8 was used for. The KVP buildings included about 10 rooms each, with about 16 beds to each room. In mid-February 1954, a KVP school for tank mechanics was said to have been located there, with the participant being exchanged every six weeks. On 15 February, a KVP officer wearing yellow-bordered black epaulets and 80 EM wearing blue collar patches marched along Neustrelitzer Chaussee toward the tank repair shop, coming from the direction of the cantonment.

- 25X1A 1. [REDACTED] Comment. The total number of personnel including construction workers at the tank repair plant did not change as compared with that in the last report of September 1953.
- 25X1A 2. [REDACTED] Comment. According to the previous plant capacity of 10 tanks per month 3 or 4 months would be required to overhaul the tanks observed.
- 25X1A 3. [REDACTED] Comment. Information confirms a previous report, according to which the enlargement of the installation was a major project in the 1954 program.
- 25X1A [REDACTED]
- 25X1A 4. [REDACTED] Comment. The posts mentioned are known as KVP posts.

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5. [REDACTED] Comment. Major Berndt (fnu) and Captain Weber (fnu) are known in key positions at the plant. [REDACTED] Senior Lieutenant Latx (fnu) is chief of Sector No II for weapons, equipment, radio equipment and optical instruments. Captain Werner (fnu) was mentioned for the first time.

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6. [REDACTED] Comment. This figure is believed to refer to the plant personnel proper.

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7. [REDACTED] Comment. Information confirms the course of instruction for KVP tank mechanics mentioned in paragraph 1.

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